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THE EDGE

The Voice of Integrity
at Fort Hays State University

February 27, 2007; Volume 2, Issue 10 Hays, Kansas 67601

www.TheOnlineEdge.net

Tiger Krew Paintball splats onto scene

Mike Courson
Staff Writer

Concealed carry is not an option. All weapons should be drawn and in full sight. And be sure not to wear your Sunday best.

Yes, the Fort Hays State Tiger Krew Paintball organization is in town, still waiting as the paint dries on their status as a student organization, which was approved in December by Student Government Association.

So far, the group is relatively small with just eight active members and four looking to join. Gaining support and membership for the sport was one of the reasons that motivated Tobias Schmidtberger, Krew president, to begin putting the club together last September.

A major aspect of Krew Paintball is its participation in the Mid-

west Paintball Series, a string of tournaments featuring other five-man rookie teams throughout Kansas, Oklahoma, Nebraska and Missouri.

Presently, Krew members have a five-man team of experienced players to compete in the tournaments. To win, team members must capture the opponent team's flag and return it to their own base without getting shot. Shots count only if the paintball breaks on the intended target.

Players must work within a time limit, and the size of the playing area varies between competitions. The Krew team consists of Schmidtberger, Tucker Mall, Brandon Kuhn, Austin Bickford, Michael Dreiling and Brandon Befort, who also serves as the

club's secretary and treasurer.

Krew members are trying to garner the support of local businesses for sponsorship. In the future, the club will also have T-shirts for sale.

"The money would help go towards registrations," Befort said. Right now, the group is primarily self-sufficient. Krew members will have the chance at winning new equipment at the tournaments.

While not all members can go to the tournament, "Anybody can join," Schmidtberger said. Meetings are subject to change, but lately have been every other

SEE 'PAINTBALL'
ON PAGE 11

▼ Red Cross

Cunningham shelters storm-stranded visitors

Mike Courson
Staff Writer

Kansas weather is notorious for changing on the fly. Saturday, Hays residents found out exactly how fast and how much it can change. After a warm and cloudy morning, the temperature fell as a thunderstorm moved in. The rain turned to sleet, then back to rain, then to snow, all in a matter of hours.

The changes wreaked havoc on local emergency services. Law enforcement and fire personnel

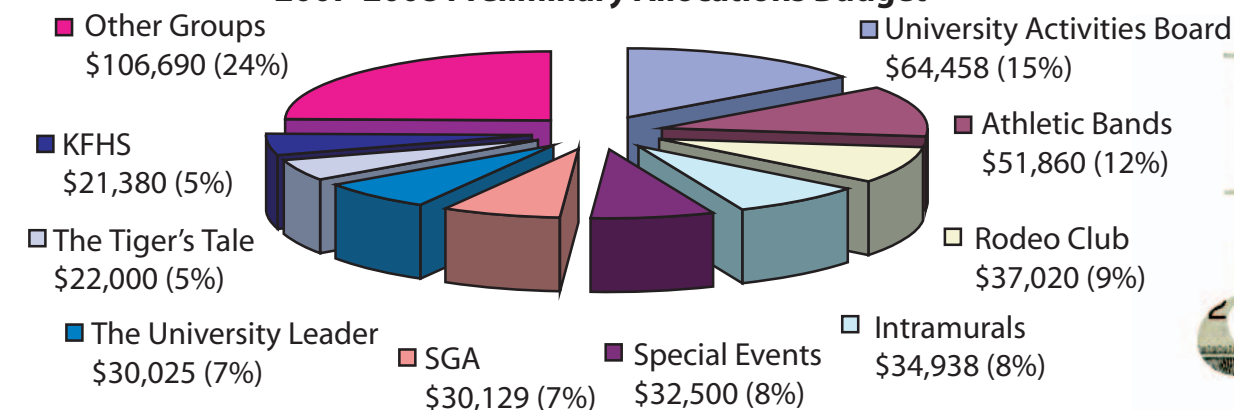
responded to several calls of vehicles that had slid off the road.

1-70 closures, vehicle accidents and already-full hotels (because of a state wrestling tournament hosted at Gross Memorial Coliseum) prompted Bill Ring of the American Red Cross to set up a shelter in Cunningham Hall for those who were stranded.

Ring, executive director for the Ellis County Chapter of the American Red Cross, is in constant contact with emergency per-

SEE 'STORM'
ON PAGE 11

2007-2008 Preliminary Allocations Budget



Allocations committee makes recommendation

Zach Becker
Editor

A decrease in available funds coupled with an increase in requests made this year an especially difficult one for those on the Student Government Association's allocations committee.

The committee, faced with the unenviable task of deciding which student organizations receive student fee money and then determining how much each group gets, finished their preliminary overall allocations budget Sunday night. The allocations

budget will be voted on by the full senate on March 8, pending any amendments to the recommendation.

With a total available budget of \$431,000 – down from about \$474,000 last year – and with requests totaling about \$624,000 thousand – up from about \$581,000 last year – the committee was faced with a lot of difficult choices.

"One thing that a lot of groups like to see is an even straight across the board cut," said Phillip Van Horn, humanities senator. "That is one thing we try to steer clear of.

When using student fee money, we like to give money based on groups we feel will use the student fee money more effectively than other groups.

"Some of the groups that we considered, like the intramurals, we looked at the fact that they served so many students and such a wide demographic of students. We looked at that when breaking down their funding to meet their request as best as we could."

While 12 groups were denied allocations funding in the preliminary budget,

Van Horn singled out two groups in particular as omissions that could possibly "raise some eyebrows." Those two groups were Christian Challenge and Black Student Union. In the case of both groups, the decision not to fund them was unanimous, according to Van Horn.

Christian Challenge, which received \$4,500 last year, was denied because they did not hand in their paperwork by the

SEE 'ALLOCATIONS'
ON PAGE 11

Dollars
& Sense

EDITORIAL

Rodeo Club over-funded?

The preliminary Student Government Association allocations budget has been unveiled (see Page 1) and, for the most part, the numbers seem pretty fair. However, looking through the dollar amounts, one group towards the top just doesn't seem to belong. Rodeo Club is scheduled to receive about \$37,000 next year. That means they are slated to get more money than groups such as Intramurals, Special Events Committee, SGA, The University Leader, Tigers in Service and Tiger Tots Nursery. Only the University Activities Board and the University Bands will get more funding. According to the Rodeo Club website, the group has 21 members. An argument could be made that no other group scheduled to receive more than \$10,000 in funding serves so few Fort Hays State students. And this is not an attack on Rodeo Club or the activity itself. These students work hard at their sport and represent the university well. It just happens to be an expensive sport (and perhaps should be brought into the athletic department and funded that way). This is not to say that they don't deserve some SGA funding. But given the group's limited participation, they should not be receiving a little over 8 percent of our student fees. Student fees should be going to the groups that benefit the most students. While Rodeo Club is an organization worthy of funding, it just doesn't serve enough students to merit \$37,000. -Zach Becker for The Editorial Board

OPINION

Downtown key to Hays' success



Brandon Worf Staff Writer

Well guys, it's time for a review of the illustrious people who lead this town, whether it may be leading towards oblivion, or towards something better, like another giant box store. We hope that at the least, that they don't spend all our tax revenue on something out-of-state. I digress. If anybody really pays attention to the status quo of the state of affairs in this town (the legitimate ones, not the ones that involve highly sordid stories), they'd notice two things: One, the streets in this town that aren't brand new are really starting to suck; and Two, the downtown area is really suffering. Think about this: the I-70 corridor provides a huge commercial opportunity, and

it also provides a huge dent in the existing businesses not located close to it. It also diverts a huge amount of revenues meant to be spread about the city in a supposedly equal fashion, to a single area that gets more attention than it deserves. Granted, this attention could also end up being returned in the form of higher tax receipts and revenue, but whether that extra income gets put to use elsewhere is arguable at best. Case in point: the streets in the downtown area are

deplorable. Granted, the history in the bricks is great, but the potholes, dips, bumps, and rough driving conditions are not. Main and Eighth streets are the only two exceptions to the rule. So what about the existing businesses? Up until recently, most of the buildings in the Chestnut Street District held no appeal. Now, we have Gella's/LB Brewing, Main Street Salon, Semolino, The Rail, and the Fox Theater, but those were all done with private funds. Existing businesses usually don't have much incentive to radically redo their storefronts. If the Chestnut Street district is all about preservation and renovation through city funding, where's the preservation and restoration? I've yet to see anybody tripping over themselves to pour money supposedly set aside for this stuff to even put it to good use on the handful of empty buildings in the area. For those who read my material a lot, I've been over this before. It's still high time that the City of Hays owned up to its history and prosperity and began putting effort, money, and time into projects and business ventures that will benefit the city and the county, not some out-of-state box-store corporation with the reputation of bullying around cities just like ours in order to get a new store built. Giving tax incentives to those guys is selling out, and we know it just as much as they do. For every tax incen-

tive you give to a major corporation, you lose the chance of helping a handful of local businesses get off the ground at all. For every bit of commercial development we pursue on the north side of town, we only stick it to the people downtown, the people who matter most. They are the businesses that got us to where we are today. And instead of giving them tax breaks and incentives, we exploit the fruits of their labor in order to support corporate entities that usually take in more revenue in one day than the locals will do in a week or even a month. Get it together guys. This can't go on forever. Hays' economy is too localized for it to survive on interstate commerce, but it can certainly thrive from it. Instead of pouring all the revenue we get from I-70 back into that area, why don't we invest it in the part of town that started it all? Give something back for a change, don't just ask for the new and (not really) improved. Another box store is not the idea we need to be considering. I would much rather see downtown flourish and thrive on what it already has, than to see it suffer from what I-70 hasn't even brought us yet. Unlike the song by Reel Big Fish, we may sell out in the end, but the corporations aren't going to give us a lot of money, and everything certainly won't be alright. Savvy?



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JUMPS

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Wednesday, March 7

11:15 am FHSU Pep Band, free drink giveaways

Prize Giveaways, courtesy of Pepsi

11:30 am Brief Remarks

Drawing for 15" Flat Screen TV and Apple 1GB iPod Shuffle (entry forms available starting March 1st at Union Station cash registers)
Note: Only FHSU students eligible for TV and iPod.

Pictures with Victor E. Tiger

11:45 – 12:30 pm FHSU Jazz Combo in Cody Commons, featuring Jon Yust, trumpet, Alex Toepfer, saxophone, Chad Foust, guitar, Jordan Bollig, bass and Kyle Brown, drums

12:30 pm TimesTalk: Extreme Makeover: What the Memorial Union Means for FHSU. Presenter: Bill Smriga, Director, Memorial Union, Stouffer Lounge.
Free pizza and drinks to the first 25 people.

7 am – 6 pm "Bell Ringers"

If the bell goes off when you're at the cash register, you win a free meal or prize

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Paintball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Thursday, at 8 p.m. at 2R of Mc-Mindes Hall. Membership to the club is \$10 per semester. The Krew hopes to recruit some new members into the club when the warm weather returns and they hold some open paintball fights. No dates have been set yet. Though anyone can play, Schmidtberger asks that students bring their own equipment. "We have a little extra equipment that some more experienced players

have," he said. "We can lend it out but prefer people bring their own." Because paintballing is not allowed on campus, members are currently using a field in Schoenschen to play. One club member has also made some land available for an alternative location. Schmidtberger invites all kinds of players to attend a meeting or get involved. "The organization is not set up to be geared just for tournament or recreational players," Schmidtberger said. "We welcome both."

Storm

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

sonnel when a storm approaches. "We also keep track of how many rooms are available," Ring said. "We knew there were none because of the wrestling tournament." The process of opening an emergency shelter is multifaceted. Ring makes the decision to open the shelter, then contacts Fort Hays Police Chief Ed Howell, who notifies staff at Gross Memorial and Cunningham Hall. Next, a county fire truck filled with cots, blankets and other goods is brought to the Coliseum. The truck also has comfort kits with common toiletries such as toothbrushes, toothpaste and soap. While the truck is on the way, Ring contacts Red Cross volunteers and the Red Cross board of directors. In more serious emergencies, the Red Cross office out of Wichita would supply more volunteers and equipment. In the most serious disasters, volunteers will respond from all over the nation. "We're prepared for whatever it takes," Ring said. "We pride ourselves that once we make the decision, we can get things up and running quickly. Even in the weather, we had the shelter up and running in an hour." This is the third time in two months that the Red Cross has set up a shelter in Cunningham Hall. Ring said 15 people stayed overnight this time around. "We would rather error on the side of safety," he said. "Even if it's just one or two people staying, we stay open." Ring says there are about 20 volunteers for the Ellis County Chapter of the Red, but stressed that, "We can always use more." He also emphasized that the American Red Cross is not part of the government. All funds come from donations.

Allocations

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

deadline. "We're definitely going to represent ourselves at the SGA allocations meeting," said Daniel Williams, president of Christian Challenge. "This is a worthwhile organization that does good things on the campus. If they choose to fund us, that's wonderful; we'll accept it. If they choose not to, we'll respect their decision." Black Student Union, which requested allocations for the first time, was denied because they did not attend their scheduled hearing Saturday. Crystal Harden, president of Black Student Union, said that the time SGA arranged for the

group's allocations hearing was not a good one for its members and no one could make it. For those unhappy with the committee's funding recommendations, Van Horn encourages students contact their student government representatives. The contact information can be found on the SGA website. "Encourage them to back and support your group," he said. "Another way is to show up either March 1 or 2 to the first or second reading of the allocations bill. Come to the microphone during the open forum section of the student government association meeting. You may speak freely about any concerns you have about our preliminary budget."

Men prepare for MIAA tournament

Cole Reif
Sports Editor

The MIAA Tournament-bound Tiger basketball team concluded their regular season against nationally ranked Northwest Missouri State University Saturday night. Fort Hays will be going into postseason play coming off a loss as they dropped this game to the fifteenth- ranked Bearcats, 66-40.

Fort Hays State got on the scoreboard first with three unanswered points, but when Northwest Missouri finally took a 4-3 lead with 16:10 left to play in the first half, they never looked back. The Bearcats went on a 30-5 run in the midst of the first half that derailed the Tigers completely off track. Fort Hays State went into the break down by a score of 44-17.

Head coach, Mark Johnson threw an array of players out onto the court trying to stop the red-hot shooting from Northwest Missouri State. Unfortunately, not one of the eleven players that saw action could stop the Bearcats from hitting 10-of-24 from the three-point line. The Bearcats shot a better percentage from behind the arc (41 percent) than they did from the field overall (39 percent).

Fort Hays State was down by as many as 36 in the second half until they went on 10-0 run to end

the game, highlighted by seven points from freshman Matt Stramel. Stramel finished as the leading scorer for the Tigers with nine points. The Tigers received just fifteen points from their starters Saturday evening. Leading scorer Jeff Pruitt was held to just three field goal attempts. Pruitt finished the night with six points.

Fort Hays State ended the season with a 13-14 record and was 6-12 in conference play. The 26-point loss was their largest of the season. Fort Hays State shot an ice-cold 29.8 percent from the field, including 11.8 percent from three-point land.

Luckily for the Tigers, the rims used in Maryville, Missouri, will not be the same used in Kansas City for the MIAA Tournament. Even with the loss, the Tigers still garnered the seventh seed in the tournament. Fort Hays will face off against Central Missouri University, who received the two seed, this Thursday at Municipal Auditorium starting at 6 p.m. The Mules and Tigers split the regular season series, each winning on their respective home court. The Tigers edged out the Mules 87-77 at Gross Memorial Coliseum back in the first week of February when the Mules were ranked fifth in the nation. Coach Johnson is 4-5 in conference tournament play during his career so far at Fort Hays State.

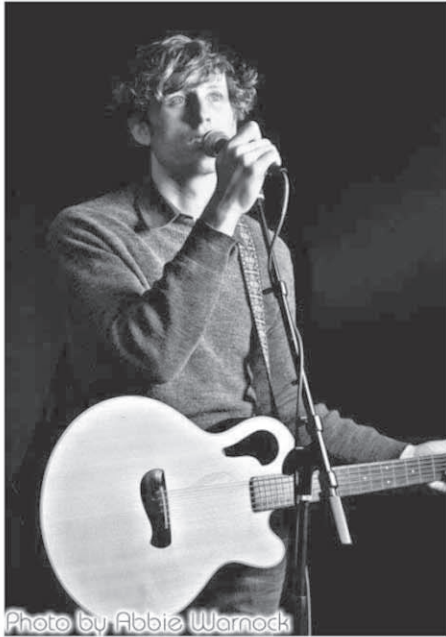
Wrestlers take second

The Fort Hays State wrestling team took home second place in the RMAC Championship last Sunday night in Golden, Colorado. It was a productive day for the Tigers as they qualified seven individual wrestlers for the national tournament. The NCAA Division II Championships will run on March 9 and 10 in Kearney, Nebraska this year. The Lopers from Nebraska-Kearney University took first place in the tournament. The seven individual qualifiers for nationals for the Tigers are listed below.

Name	Weight Class
Derek Patterson	133 pound
James Annon	141 pound
Mikel Delk	149 pound
Danny Grater	157 pound
Mike Howell	184 pound
Tyler Gonzales	197 pound
Andrew Ubben	285 pound

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Wednesday, February 28
7:30 pm
CODY COMMONS

Lies, deception in name of religion highly hypocritical

Since the beginning of organized religion, there have been those who would use lies, intimidation, and violence to convert non-believers.

Since most of these religions preach the Golden Rule or other high standards of thought and behavior, I wonder how the theology is perverted by some to include deception and injury.

An article in last week's Time tells how a new line of so-called abortion clinics are using these methods to scare unsuspecting women out of their abortion choice.

The article, titled *The Grassroots Abortion War*, tells how young women turning to these centers in need of sincere medical advice are instead being lied to by the ideologist clinic staff.

It would seem that, because the workers are pro-life, they are using whatever means possible to prevent abortions. While that may seem noble to many, is lying and intimidation really the best means possible?

The consistency of misinformation given to women is alarming. Disturbed by allegations that the clinics were lying and scaring pregnant women, one congressman used undercover 17 year-old girls to seek information from the clinics. Twenty of the



**Mike
Courson**
Staff Writer

23 clinics tested provided false information.

Along with citing outdated medical information from as far back as 1967, such as telling women they had an increased risk of cancer and infertility if they had an abortion, the clinics offered the women money.

A clinic in Minnesota is willing to give a women \$200-400 if she didn't have an abortion. Statistics show that poor women seek abortions four times as often as the rich.

Is this very small amount of money really going to help that mother and her child? I share the sentiment of former pro-life Governor of Arkansas Mike Huckabee when he said, "I don't believe life begins at conception and ends at birth." Why are so many so-called pro-lifers the same people who are against welfare and other govern-

ment assistance to mothers and children after birth?

Lack of education and inadequate access to birth control are two main reasons many poor young women end up seeking abortions.

Christian ideologues have the opportunity to help these women with education centers and free birth control, but because they feel that would encourage premarital sex, of which they disapprove, they offer only judgment.

While the actions of those in the clinics are horrible, there are many other Christians who do not seem to be following the Golden Rule.

In 2002, Michael Newdow won a case that ruled the phrase "under God" unconstitutionally supported the belief of one god. Some Christians responded with death threats.

More recently, Tennessee Senator Bill Frist, also a doctor, appeared on George Stephanopoulos's Sunday morning show on ABC. Dr. Frist - who's blinding pro-life beliefs convinced him that brain-dead coma victim Terry Schiavo could actually recover - was on the program to discuss the religious right's attempts to keep misinfor-

mation in our public school's sex education programs.

Stephanopoulos had to ask Dr. Frist several times if he really believed AIDS could be transmitted through tears. Finally, only because he had no alternative but the truth, Frist acquiesced.

Last year in Meade, a homophobic Christian threw a brick through a house window because the owners were flying a rainbow flag they'd received as a gift from their grandson.

It goes without saying that the majority of Christians are good people who try their best to follow the teachings of Jesus. And the Golden Rule is a great guide to live your life by, regardless of your religion.

But hypocrisy is dangerous. If you preach a belief, you should follow it yourself. Even if you disagree with someone, that doesn't justify them being lied to, intimidated, or even murdered. Treat others like as you would like to be treated.

Using fear and propaganda to further your beliefs - especially on the unsuspecting and needy - is wrong. If your side is morally right, shouldn't the facts support it? Faith can be a great thing, but facts have caused fewer wars.



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March 14 -- 7:30 p.m. -- Beach/Schmidt

Marie Zamani, Afghan refugee, ends up at FHSU

During Soviet invasion and 10-year occupation of Afghanistan, 3 million Afghan natives fled their home country. One of those refugees eventually found her way to Fort Hays State University.

Marie Zamani was five years-old when her family fled Kadoul, Afghanistan. She remembers when her parents said they were going to France.

"I was not scared, I was with my parents," said Zamani. "I was very excited."

Still, it was not as simple as Zamani thought. She remembers her parents had to leave their occupations and their families. Her father was a pulmonary doctor and her mother was a high school teacher of Persian literature.

"We had a good life in Afghanistan," said Zamani. "I felt sorry for my parents when we left."

When Zamani's family left, they had to be very careful. She remembers that if it looked like you were moving for good, it would raise questions about what the family was doing.

"We left a lot of expensive things in Afghanistan, like our house, cars and jewelry," said Zamani.

Eventually, all of her family left Afghanistan. Her mother's family moved to America's east coast, and her father's family moved to the west coast.

The only family Zamani still has in Afghanistan is one of her aunts.

Zamani grew up in France, where her father studied before the invasion, so it was easier for him to find a job there. However, Zamani's mother had a more difficult time finding work. She even spent some time teaching a kindergarten class.

Zamani, now 22, attended the Universite of Franche-Comte, Besancon, France, before she came to Hays as a non-degree seeking, exchange student for a year. She was working on her master's in political sociology in France.

"I came to Hays to work on my English skills," said Zamani. "I can speak Persian, French, English and Spanish."

Zamani shows no signs of slowing down. After she graduates with her master's degree, she wants to attend the University of Ottawa in Canada for her Ph.D. in political sociology.

"There are more opportunities for a person with a Ph.D.," said Zamani.

Zamani's primary goal is to eventually go back to Afghanistan to help the native people. She is already in a position to prepare for her goal. She is going to New York during this summer to participate in an internship through the United Nations. She will accompany an ambassador through his daily schedule for two weeks.

"I am going to start the beginning of my dreams," said Zamani.

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Lady Tigers end season

Cole Reif
Sports Editor

The Lady Tiger basketball team ended their chances of making the conference tournament with a 94-77 loss to Northwest Missouri State on Saturday in Maryville, Missouri. While the Lady Tigers still would have needed some help from other teams in the MIAA in order to make the tournament, they absolutely had to win Saturday evening to have any chance of making the field of eight teams. Fort Hays State can only be spectators for the tourney that starts Friday in Kansas City after a night where they saw Northwest Missouri shoot lights out in the first half of basketball.

The Bearcats knocked down 10 three-pointers in the opening half and shot 60 percent from the field. Fort Hays State, who shot the ball fairly efficiently, too, went into the locker room down 53-37. The second half rolled around and it seemed as though an entirely different ball club came out for the Tigers. Senior Ashlee Gustin scored ten points in a 14-0 run to open the second half to cut the Bearcats' lead to only two with 15:55 remaining.

Fort Hays State would get as close as one point when freshman

Kayla Klug sank a jumper at the 12:26 mark to make it 60-59 in favor of the Bearcats. That would be as close as the Tigers would get, though, as Northwest Missouri State pushed their lead out to ten for the rest of the game and eventually finished it off with a seventeen-point victory.

The Lady Tigers could not stop Katie O'Grady from Northwest Missouri State as she capped the night off with 24 points on 6-of-9 shooting from beyond the three-point arc.

Fort Hays State was led by their two seniors, Gustin and Katie Rausch. Gustin finished the night with 23 points and 8 rebounds. Gustin finishes her career ranked fifth on the school's all-time scoring list (1,504 points) and on the school's all-time rebounding list (794). Rausch ended up with 14 points and 5 rebounds. Rausch knocked down four three-pointers to give her 66 three's on the year, which sets a new school record for the most three-pointers made in a single season.

The Lady Tigers wrapped up their season with a 14-13 record. All those losses came in conference play, which they finished 5-13, good enough for ninth in the MIAA.



BRANDON WORF/THE EDGE
Far above, the Lady Tigers take on an opponent this season. Directly above, the danceline perform during one of the games

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Sports in Brief

Track and Field

Both the men and women track and field teams from Fort Hays State competed in the MIAA Indoor Championships this weekend on the campus of Central Missouri State in Warrensburg, Missouri.

The Tiger men finished the event with a sixth-place finish while the women finished seventh. Fort Hays qualified five individuals for the National Indoor Championships held in Boston, Massachusetts.

Brady Maska won the shot put event while Amanda Poore set a new conference record in high jump with a jump that cleared 5'8 ¾". David Quillen took home second in the 400 meters and Casey Wanger placed second in the pole vault as she vaulted 12'2" Saturday. Maurice Henson would round out the qualifiers, as he finished second in the triple jump with 46'10 ¾". The National Indoor Championships take place March 9-10.

Baseball

The Tiger baseball team opened their home stand with four straight wins.

Fort Hays State pushed out Nebraska-Omaha last Thursday in two games both by scores of 5-2. The Tigers took to the field two more times on Friday before the weather got too bad to take on Nebraska-Kearney.

The Tigers edged out the Lopers in game one by a score of 1-0.

In game two, Fort Hays State beat Nebraska-Kearney 3-1. All three runs came in the first two innings for the Tigers. After losing their first three games of the season, the Tiger baseball team has now rattled off five straight wins to improve their record to 5-3.

The poor weather caused the games scheduled against Nebraska-Kearney on Sunday to be cancelled so the Tigers get a short break before hosting Rockhurst University in a double-header this Saturday at Larks Park. First pitch will be thrown at 2 p.m.

Softball

The road stretch continues for the Fort Hays State softball team and so far the road has been unkind to the Tigers.

The Tigers first traveled to Canyon, Colorado to face West Texas A&M in a double-header. Fort Hays State lost both games by a single point, 7-6 and 10-9. Then, it's time to head south for the West Texas A&M Tournament held in Amarillo, Texas on Friday. The Tigers got themselves into a shootout with Angelo State in the first game.

Fort Hays State belted out 23 hits but still lost this one 20-19. The Tigers dropped their final game of the day to Northeastern State, 12-0. The losses drop the softball team to 2-7 on the year and they look to get back on track this Friday as they will go east to take on Missouri Western State University in St. Joseph.

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